2008-03370/

The Corporation of The City of London
February 5, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Repairs underway for watermain break

North London residents may have experienced lower than normal water pressure and noticed discoloured water today as a result of a broken watermain.

The break occurred on a large feeder main that runs under Sarnia Road and Huron Street in the vicinity of the University of Western Ontario. This caused changes in the normal flow patterns of adjacent watermains which, in turn, dislodged particles of iron oxide (rust) from the insides of iron mains. These particles are not a health concern; however, they can make the water appear yellow/orange in colour.

As of 10 this morning, the watermain was isolated and the discolouration has begun to subside. It may take up to 24 hours before the water appears totally clear again.

Residents are advised to discharge discoloured water through their cold water tap until the water clears. If the water does not clear after three to five minutes, it may be necessary to contact City staff to rectify the problem.

Specific questions regarding the City's water system can be addressed by calling the Water Quality Customer Service line at 519 661-4739.

The City is also in the process of repairing several other smaller watermain breaks, which typically occur during periods of very cold weather. These breaks have also contributed to the discolouration of water in adjacent areas.

The City of London appreciates your patience and understanding as we make the necessary repairs and return to normal operations.